

High School Grads Choosing BCC at All-time Record High of 32%

2001 Major High School Yield

Graduating # Attending BCC Yield

BROOME COUNTY HIGH SCHOOLS

Binghamton	291	101	34.7%
Chenango Forks	147	47	31.9%
Chenango Valley	136	52	38.2%
Deposit	50	6	12.0%
Harpursville	59	17	28.8%
Johnson City	184	62	33.7%
Maine Endwell	182	59	32.4%
Seton	101	33	32.7%
Susquehanna Valley	108	57	52.7%
Union Endicott	306	99	31.5%
Vestal	278	59	21.2%
Whitney Point	108	33	30.5%
Windsor	119	41	34.5%
TOTAL	2069	666	32.2%

TIoga & CHENANGO COUNTY HIGH SCHOOLS

Greene Central	101	18	17.8%
Newark Valley	100	23	23.0%
Tioga Central	66	13	19.7%
Owego Apalachin	147	45	30.0%
TOTAL	414	99	23.9%

PENNSYLVANIA HIGH SCHOOLS

Montrose	129	16	12.4%
Susquehanna Community	80	1	1.3%
Northeast Bradford	69	3	4.3%
TOTAL	278	20	7.1%

Students attend BCC for a variety of reasons. The programs are academically sound, it gives students a chance to search and find themselves, and it gives them a chance to mature. The College is cost effective and has good articulation agreements with other colleges and universities. It's an intelligent thing to do for a lot of students," says Union Endicott counselor John Purino.

Mel Fenimore from Susquehanna Valley agrees. "Students feel they are getting more bang for the buck. They all know that their credits will transfer to other colleges and universities."

And in 2001, 32.2% of all Broome County high school graduates selected BCC. This was a record high for the College which generally attracts 29-30% of all area graduates to its programs.

Longtime BCC Admissions Director Anthony Fiorelli was particularly pleased to see the figures. "Our team works very hard to get the BCC message out there. To see students understand the value of starting college locally — and in such record numbers — is very gratifying."

Fiorelli also believes that the events of September 11 may result in more families feeling anxious about college departures.

HIGH SCHOOL GRADS,
continued on pg. 10



New Student Center Food Court is Formula for Success

Discarding a decades-old conventional cafeteria system, BCC last fall introduced students to a new food court and dining room.

"What a great improvement... the food is better than last year and the place draws a bigger crowd," said second year student Danielle Sepe.

After a summer of negotiations and interviewing potential vendors, the College opted for familiar and popular names: Subway, Nirchi's, and Gance's. And, for BCC it all has a local, familiar feel to it:

- The Nirchi store is the fifth franchise for Pizza Systems, Inc., owned by John Marshall who attended BCC in 1971.

- The Subway store is another franchise for Doug Matraski who graduated from BCC in 1979.
- Gance's Grill is owned by Michael Gance whose wife Suzann attended BCC in 1991 and whose son Santino is currently attending the College.

In order to make it all work, the College did a lot of banging and rebuilding last summer.

Much of the wall between the old cafeteria serving area and the seating area was knocked down, much of the old steel cafeteria equipment was thrown out, all new furniture was purchased,

FOOD COURT,
continued on pg. 12



Where relevant, state and federal laws apply.
of faculty and staff, or the operation of any of its programs and activities.
the recruitment or education of students; the recruitment and employment
orientation, or status as a disabled veteran or veteran of the Vietnam era in
or the Vietnam era in
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Broome Community College
P.O. Box 1017
Binghamton, NY 13902

Not Your Parents' Library Anymore!

by Larry Jenkins, Librarian, and Alice McNeely, Acting Director LRC

"Shh," said the librarian, "Be quiet. This is the Library." And so it was for years...

BCC's Cecil C. Tyrrell Learning Resources Center, new in 1968, was a modern temple of serious research, with a collection of thousands of books and hundreds of magazines. Research began at the sturdy oak card catalog where you looked up the call number of what you wanted by author, title or subject, before setting out to the "stacks" to find your book. You found a list of the articles you wanted in the green Readers' Guide to Periodical Literature, and then checked to see if we had the publication in house. If we did, you went hunting for it in our periodicals section. If BCC didn't have the book or magazine you wanted, you filled out a request and a librarian mailed

has been replaced by banks of computers. In Reference, librarians work individually with patrons teaching them how to use the multitude of computer resources, including the many full-text databases, which we subscribe to. One such database called EBSCO has full text articles from 1560 general interest magazines and 2300 business magazines plus articles from 194 newspapers. Another database: Science Direct has full text articles from 700 journals. Still another: Health Reference Center has hundreds of articles about health sciences. And of course we have Galenet, with information on 120,000 authors. Not only can our patrons access these databases from any computer on campus, but with a valid BCC computer account they can access them from anyplace they have access to the Internet.

BCC students, faculty and staff with computer accounts can now access all magazine databases anytime, from anyplace they have an Internet connection. This not only supports our growing number of online courses, but also provides 24/7 services to all our students, faculty and staff. (Due to licensing agreements, this service is available to only BCC students, faculty, and staff. Community members who don't have a computer account can access these same resources from our public access stations in the Library.)

Clearly, then, the Learning Resources Center is living up to its name. We offer a broad range of resource and services to meet the informational and instructional needs of our students, faculty and the extended college community. Now, as an LRC patron, you have access to more information than ever before.

One of our major tasks is not only helping our patrons find information, but also teaching them to evaluate what they find. We continue to provide a warm environment for students to relax and study in, but advances in technology have drastically changed our patrons' expectations and the way we do business. We remain a repository for books, periodicals, newspapers and videos (61,000 circulating books, 6,000 reference books and 300 magazines — and sometimes the best answers are still found there) but now much more information is literally at our fingertips.

Want to print out an exact replica of *Harper's Weekly* from December 26, 1857? The latest news from Afghanistan? Opinions on stem cell research? In only moments, you can be reading it from home — even while still in your pajamas.

The BCC library is open 7 days a week (24/7 online!) and we serve everyone who walks or rides in the door. And we do it with an amazing array of technology connected to vast storehouses of information. We're not as quiet as we used to be, either; we're proud to be a beehive of learning activity.

The LRC at BCC: we're not your parents' library anymore! ■



Librarian Beverly Long and student Kristina Szelkowski enjoy a moment while searching the library's numerous full-text databases.

out a multi-form to libraries who might have what you needed and the item would come your way in a week or so. The Library was quiet and safe and warm and solid like Gibraltar.

Fast-forward to today. The building might look somewhat the same but inside there are some significant changes.

In one area, a librarian is teaching research methods in a hands-on computer laboratory. Next door, students are working in our networked computer lab. In the lobby, Circulation staff electronically scan in your individual library barcode and then scan in information about the book, video, CD, slides or biological model you wish to borrow — and the card catalog

And we're live on the Internet. You don't even have to leave home to visit the library — go to www.sunybroome.edu and click on Student Services, then click on Library — just take a look at what we have to offer:

- Click on "virtual window" or the camcorder for a virtual tour of the library
- Click on "Have a Question" to email a question to the librarians
- Click on "Internet Resources" to see recommended places to go on the Internet and how to cite them in your research
- Click on "Search Books" to search our collection
- Click on "Search Articles" to search our database of online articles.

■ Highlights ■



Pumpkin Party and "Thank You, Bob Warner" for BCCenter Kids

A Halloween Pumpkin Party for the kids at BCC's Day Care Center, and a "Thank You" to Assemblyman Robert Warner, took place in BCC's new pavilion.

Last year Assemblyman Warner sponsored a \$50,000 NYS Community Enhancement Facilities Assistance project grant for BCC to construct a picnic pavilion. The pavilion is adjacent to the BC Center and is intended to augment the Center's programming. It will also serve the full college community.

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Broome Community College

Binghamton, New York

...a comprehensive community college founded in 1946

Supervised by the State University of New York

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CHARLES J. QUAGLIATA,
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GLENDIA NEWELL-BLAKE,
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JESSE WELLS
Assistant to the VPSCA:
STAFF WRITER, PHOTOGRAPHER

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Broome Community College
PO Box 1017

Binghamton, NY 13902

Phone: 607 778-5000

607 778-5150 TTY/TDD

800 836-0689 Toll-Free

Visit our website at:
www.sunybroome.edu

BCC Honor Society Saw True Growth Under Ann Sova's Leadership

by David Maslar, Director, Student Activities

Last fall I was in a local store at the cash register when I noticed a Phi Theta Kappa pin worn by one of the clerks. I commented on the pin and on the fact that I was buying a gift card for Ann Sova, a BCC English Department faculty member and the Phi Theta Kappa advisor on campus who was retiring at the end of the semester and that the gifts were to be presented to Ann at The Giving of the Toys. The student looked straight at me and said, "For Ann — I'll be there."

Phi Theta Kappa, the Honor Society for two year colleges and counterpart to the Phi Beta Kappa of four-year schools, came into being on the BCC campus as the Mu Eta Chapter in the early 1960's. Eligible students were inducted just before graduating and thus had an additional honor to add to their resume.

In the early '90s, Ann Sova became the chapter advisor and things changed. According to her co-advisor, Bruce Oldfield, Ann took the chapter "from a society that only recognized academic achievement to being the most active student organization on campus." Mu Eta is one of the most active chapters in Phi Theta Kappa as well. The group has twice been honored as being one of the top 100 chapters internationally (out of more than 1200) and has attained Five-Star status, the highest level possible in chapter development. In 1999, Mu Eta received the Service Hallmark Award — one of only 10 awarded internationally. Phi Theta Kappa states that "the Hallmark Awards Program for individual and chapter competition recognizes excellence in programs and projects that promote the four Hallmarks of Phi Theta Kappa: Scholarship, Leadership, Service and Fellowship."

Without Ann's dedication and leadership, and, most importantly, her ability to foster leadership in her students, these awards would not have been possible for BCC.

During Ann's era as advisor, Mu Eta became a true service club - service to the campus and service to the community. The group sent truckloads of children's books and school supplies to New York City and tutored students in Johnson City. Mu Eta has cleaned up local riverbanks and held blood drives. The club has even sung at regional nursing homes during the holidays. It has brought speakers to the BCC campus and held book fairs and reading jamborees. Members have served on campus academic committees and have helped select annual Convocation topics and speakers. The results of their efforts have been recognized by Phi Theta

Kappa not only in the awards listed above, but in individual member awards as well. BCC's Mu Eta chapter has produced four All-USA Academic Team members.

Phi Theta Kappa has recognized Ann's contribution to the honor society, the College, and the chapter on the individual level as well. She has received the Paragon Advisor Award and the Robert Giles Advisor Award, and was nominated for the Continued Excellence Award as well. Ann was also selected to serve on the Phi Theta Kappa International Honors Committee in 1997; this committee selects and develops the Honors Study Topic for the academic year. The committee is selected based on "its broad knowledge of international issues, its experience in coordinating college honors programs, and its balance in geography and academic disciplines." Ann was one of ten individuals from all over the world to serve on this committee.

Bruce Oldfield, who has received many of the Phi Theta Kappa advisor awards for his own service to BCC, said that during her career, Ann "won just about all the awards anyone could get."

BCC President Donald Dellow, in his recommendation letter to Phi Theta Kappa for her Giles Advisor Award, wrote, "Ann Sova's contribution in providing leadership for this chapter is responsible for our chapter coming back to life ... Ann has worked miracles here at BCC."

Thank you, Ann, from all of us who have had the privilege of working with you. ■



Sova walks across campus with College president Don Dellow.

■ Highlights ■



BCC Celebrates Rad Tech Week

Broome Community College's Radiologic Technology Program helped to support Rad Tech week by demonstrating the effectiveness of X-ray Technology for fellow students.

The Student Center displays, which attracted considerable attention, included "Phantoms" (human bones incased in clear plastic), X-rays of a little girl who swallowed a monopoly piece, and an image of puppies in the womb.

Campus News and Notes

• Retired BCC Theater Department Director **Angelo Zuccolo**, was honored in September with the dedication of his star on the Binghamton Sidewalk of Stars. Zuccolo, one of BCC's much admired faculty members, was with the BCC theater program for over 30 years.

• The **Early Childhood Department** has received a \$45,296 grant from the Stewart W. and Wilma C. Hoyt Foundation to establish a Center for Infant Toddler Professional Development. The one-year pilot project, started last fall, includes teachers of infants and toddlers from eight area child care centers. The teachers will be enrolled in study programs designed to improve the quality of infant/toddler programs. The grant will be administered by BCC's Early Childhood Department chairperson, **Dr. Barbara Nilsen**.

• The American Society for Quality (ASQ) Biomedical Division, has awarded a \$14,000 grant to the **Mechanical Engineering Technology (MET)** Department. The grant will be used to purchase equipment and training materials for MET courses that support the Industrial Technology (IT) Quality Assurance Program at BCC.

• BCC students took first place in last November's New York State Mathematical Association of Two Year Colleges (NYSMATYC) math contest. Students were winners at both individual and team levels. Math Department Professor **Jean Krichbaum**, and Associate Professor **Maruja Lander**, coordinated the contest registration for BCC.

Total scores of the top 3 teams:

1. BCC:
45 contestants, team score 191
2. Monroe CC:
62 contestants, team score 183
3. Hudson Valley CC:
11 contestants, team score 156

BCC's top four students:

First-place state winner
Cheng Wa with 57 points.

Fifth-place winner
Steven McElwain with 46 points

Top-20 placers

Cynthia Harrick and
Jeremy Purdom

A team trophy now resides at BCC. ■

"You Can See It ALL in the Rock," Says Professor Oldfield

Bruce Oldfield has been collecting fossils since he was 9 years old.

As an Associate Professor at BCC, Oldfield feels that scientists should be much more than "people who spew facts all day." Since 1975, he has been teaching courses in geology, meteorology, and physics, as well as honors seminar courses at BCC. His classes, like many others at the College, are not confined to the broad study of massive textbooks. Students are taken into the field and imbued with a first-hand understanding of the forces that have shaped what they see in their own back yards.

For many years Oldfield's students have taken field trips to local areas such as Wolf Park, to collect fossils and learn scientific skills. Each lab consists of 16 to 18 students, many of whom are pre-elementary education majors learning important activities they can use to instruct their future classes. A quality educational experience is "not just talk and chalk," Oldfield said. "You can see it all in the rock."

Longer field trips land Oldfield and his students at the Herkimer Diamond Mines in Herkimer, NY. On these trips, students are taught how to think like scientists, how to observe and collect things, and how to take useful notes. Often, students can collect fossils and minerals for eventual display in their own classrooms.

Aimee Tully is a 32-year-old student who is going to college full-time for the first time. "High school earth science was many

months ago for me, and I didn't do very well in the class — I think because of a lack of interest," Aimee said. "Bruce's field trips are wonderful! Textbook learning and hands-on learning are entirely different things," she said, "and geology isn't the kind of subject that allows you to bring glaciers or rivers into class."

Aimee and her classmates are fortunate to study geology in this area, Oldfield says. The local region is a very important location for paleontology (the study of fossils). The Binghamton area is perched on the shoreline of an ancient sea. It was once part of a delta, below the southern equator, with vast stretches of water to the north and west. This geological diversity provides BCC students with opportunities to study fossils of land-based organisms as well as marine fossils, all within three hours travel time from the College.

Many of the fossils collected by Oldfield and his BCC students are over 365 million years old. He has studied some fossils that have taken him over 40 years to identify, and has donated a significant collection to the College. He hopes that this collection, the only display of local fossils in the area, will help to spark interest in the physical sciences. The display — in the lobby of the Applied Technology Building — includes some extremely rare fossils, including a bone from a mastodon (discovered in a quarry in Owego), a fossil containing the bones of a



creature evolving from fish to amphibian, and the fossilized tracks of an ancient horseshoe crab that once scurried across a muddy shore.

"We help to prepare students for university study," Oldfield said when asked why he would recommend BCC's physical sciences programs to potential students. "The professors have fun instructing, and we want the students to have fun learning."

For many years now, this popular teacher has also been successful, perhaps in part because he knows his audience. Oldfield is a native of the Binghamton area, and graduated from BCC, SUC at Cortland, and SUNY Binghamton, with degrees in Geology and a specialization in paleontology. He also serves as an advisor to the Phi Theta Kappa student honor society. It is his ongoing goal to impart to his students a love of learning in general, as well as a strong appreciation and understanding of the physical sciences. ■

Center for Community Education Responds to our Changing World

by Debra Morello, Director, Center for Community Education

In 2000, two Presidential candidates nearly "tied" in an election; something many of us never dreamed we would experience actually happened. Little did any of us know that within the year we would experience another "first" that would change our world even more dramatically.

September 11 has changed us all. The shock and horror of the attacks have caused us all to reflect on our pasts, our values, and our futures. Record numbers of couples are becoming engaged, classmates are re-establishing relationships with friends they haven't seen in years, and more families and friends are saying "I love you" to one another.

BCC's Center for Community Education has always served as a place for people to come together. Whether it is to learn the latest version of a computer program or a new painting technique, thousands of adult students take courses each year through the Center.

This spring, the Center has made a strategic decision to respond in an appropriate way to our customers' new and more immediate needs.

First, the Center will support the community with a large-scale *Symposium on Our Changing World* to help participants deal with change and uncertainty. The full-day seminar will focus on dealing with change, identifying and clarifying one's values, and coping with stress. This program is offered to the entire community at our cost — \$10 includes lunch and materials. It is our hope to bring the community together to learn and share, and to help people develop new coping skills.

In addition, Spring 2002 will be filled with courses designed for people who want to relax and settle in, to stay close to home for a while with family and friends.

There is no better time than spring for home repairs, renovations, and decorating! The Center's annual full-day *Gardeners' Gathering* is the perfect venue for learning what to grow and how to grow it. Throughout the spring there are also courses on chair caning, ceramic tile installation, and wallpapering for the do-it-yourselfer. Decorating courses include *Spring Wreath Making*, *Collecting American Antique Furniture*, and *Picture Framing*.

Some of the Center's most popular courses are those that people can go to with friends, or attend solo and make new friends. *Create an Italian Feast In a Day* is a good example; after learning how to prepare the meal, class attendees spend the afternoon indulging in it! You can also choose from courses in pasta making, cake decorating, making spring cookies, and creating homemade candy.

One of the best ways to deal with stress is to work it off; our yoga and tai chi courses always fill quickly, so be sure to sign up early! Or join one or more of the Center's many dance classes. This spring's offerings include Hustle, Argentine Tango, Beginning Salsa, and Irish Dance.

This emphasis on personal interest courses will not change what has always been our strength; the Center will continue to present courses in all areas of computer applications, on-line training, Fundamentals of Supervision, and Small Business Start-Ups.

You'll find full descriptions and information on both personal enrichment and professional development courses in the Spring 2002 catalog — it's available in libraries, grocery stores, and other locations all over town. Or call 778-5012 to have a catalog mailed to you — or go to www.sunybroome.edu to find the catalog online.

These are uncertain times for all of us. So come together with your community — with old friends and new — at BCC. ■



Professor Bruce Oldfield takes a geology class on an illuminating field trip to Wolf Park.

ENCOURAGING A COMMUNITY OF VOICES:

The BCC Readers Series

by Christopher Origer,
English Department

Close your eyes for one moment and imagine yourself in a place where only seagulls live, near a cave by the sea where the rough surf pounds against the shore. Or this: imagine you are in Cincinnati again and it is cold – bitter cold – you know no one and the air smells of heating oil and fish as you trudge through knee-deep drifts of snow. If you are a woman, imagine what it is like to live a man's life – perhaps take your grandfather's last years as the subject. See from his vantage point for one day. Look around you and see the world from a different angle of vision. Or not. Close your eyes and imagine you are blind and the world you inhabit is a world of smell and sound, but not light. Imagine listening to an old musician in the subway that honeycombs Paris as you walk without eyes. Disrupt your notions of what we loosely call the world. Try for empathy and compassion. Examine even the minutest details we take for granted as we sometimes unintentionally blunder through life, slipping into the comfortable amnesia of our routines.

Now imagine yourself in a room of strangers. Each carries something in her hands – paper, a small leather notebook. They gather around a table in a circle, take turns reading things they have written late at night when sleep avoids the body because moonlight invades a window, or hastily written on a bus bound for somewhere that will change their lives, irreversibly, forever. They think they are leaving the past behind, but it is with them, alive, on these pages. These people are not in Cincinnati or Paris. They are here now, at this college, experiencing what Tobias Wolff envisions as shared lives. In an interview some time ago, he confided his feelings about the importance of public readings, how story telling brings people together and helps to establish an enduring sense of community. Writing, he said, is an "essentially optimistic act ... the very act of writing assumes, to begin with, that someone cares to hear what you have to say. It assumes that

people share. It assumes that people can be reached, that people can be touched, and even in some cases changed." He goes on: "So many of the things in our world tend to lead us to despair. It seems to me that the final symptom of despair is silence, and that storytelling is one of the sustaining arts; it's one of the affirming arts. It's one of the

Imagine yourself in a room of strangers. Each carries something in her hands – paper, a small leather notebook. They gather around a table in a circle, take turns reading...

most intimate things that people do together. And it assumes community, shared lives with a shared perception of the world. It goes against the grain of cynicism and pessimism. A writer may have a certain pessimism in his outlook, but the very act of being a writer seems to me to be an optimistic act." This idea of encouraging the building of community is perhaps one of the fundamental reasons behind the BCC Readers Series, to encourage connections between writers and audiences, to reveal to students that language is never dead, that there are lives and voices behind the silent words on a page, whether it be memoir, essay, poem, or short story. When Wolff visited BCC in 1995 as part of the Series, he spoke of this connection, explaining that a writer's life is too often solitary, and he expressed gratitude at having the opportunity to share his work with a living audience.

Tobias Wolff is just one of the many authors who have visited campus as part of the ongoing Readers Series, now entering into its eighth season and growing stronger. Others have included Marvin Bell, Carol Bly, Stephen Kuusisto, Ruth Stone, Liz Rosenberg, Adria Bernardi, Sue William Silverman, Conrad Hilberry, Janet Burroway, Thomas Glave, Ken Waldman, Deborah Tall, Megan Staffel, and others.

Fall Hornets Capture Conference Championships

by Dan Minch, Director,
BCC Athletics

The BCC fall sports teams provided many exciting moments for their faithful fans and dominated the Mid-State Athletic Conference, capturing championships in women's volleyball, women's soccer and men's soccer. The three teams combined for an incredible 52 wins and only 18 losses during the fall campaigns.

WOMEN'S SOCCER

The BCC women's soccer team earned their fourth straight Mid-State Athletic Conference title and posted a remarkable 16-2 overall record. Coach Bill Rich was named "Coach of the Year" for the third straight year. BCC athletes gained honors, as Andrea McAfee was named second team All-American as well as being selected first team All-Region. Joining McAfee as first team All-Region was teammate Julie Sedlak with Carol Johnston and Rachel Casterlin selected NJCAA Region III Honorable Mention. Sedlak and McAfee along with teammates Carol Johnston,

Autumn Meyers, Rachel Casterlin, Abby Dundon, Samantha Sorrentino and Dee Phetphongsy dominated the Mid-State Athletic All-Conference team. Julie Sedlak was named "Player of the Year" in the MSAC. Over the past five years, the Lady Hornets have posted an amazing 70-16-4 overall record. BCC has garnered four MSAC titles and made four appearances in the Region III final four tournament.

MEN'S SOCCER

The BCC men's soccer team finished the year with a 14-5 overall record and a share of the Mid-State Athletic Conference championship. The Hornets advanced to the final four of the Regional tournament only to suffer a 0-4 loss to Herkimer County CC. BCC stalwarts Bryan Homsher and Eric Kollar gained All-Region honors. Kollar, Homsher and teammate Reilly Buckley were also named to the Mid-State Athletic Conference team. The BCC men's soccer program has established itself as one of the stronger programs in Region III. Over the last five years

the Hornets have recorded an overall record of 70-23-2.

WOMEN'S VOLLEYBALL

The fall season provided a first for BCC women's volleyball as the Lady Hornets captured their first Mid-State Athletic Conference title. BCC posted an overall record of 22-11 and advanced to the final four of the Region tournament. Christine Halstead was named first team NJCAA All-American to go with her All-Region and All-Conference honors. The Lady Hornets also received outstanding play from Valerie Hollister, an All-Region selection. Hollister and Krista Schlesiger joined Halstead on the MSAC All-Conference team. Coach Dawn Kenyon enjoyed her most successful season and is looking forward to continuing to build a strong women's volleyball program at BCC.

WOMEN'S TENNIS

After a ten-year absence, women's tennis returned to BCC. The Lady Hornets under Coach Reeta Hayes posted a 4-2 record and finished tied for second place at the Regional tournament. Nicole Albrechta and Jessica Ede led the Lady Hornets.

CROSS-COUNTRY

On the cross-country scene, Coach Tom Carter's men's team garnered the runner-up spot at the Mid-State Athletic Conference championship. Over the year both teams showed improvement and provided Coach Carter with optimism for next year.

The BCC fall sports teams provided an excellent start to another year of the winning tradition of Broome athletics. ■



The Spring, 2002 Series features the following authors:

February 21: John Vernon, whose most recent novel, *The Last Canyon*, received glowing reviews in *THE NEW YORK TIMES*. See also his memoir *A Book of Reasons*.

March 7: Scott Russell Sanders, essays and memoirs. See *The Force of Spirit*, *Writing from the Center*, *The Paradise of Bombs*, or *Staying Put: Making a Home in a Restless World* (essays); and

also his memoir *Hunting for Hope: A Father's Journeys*.

March 14: In celebration of Women's History Month, Suzanne Shepard, author of the intriguing scholarly study *The Patchwork Quilt: Ideas of Community in Nineteenth-Century American Women's Fiction*.

March 28: Charles Baxter, short stories and novels. See *Harmony of the World* or *A Relative Stranger* (short stories); also his

novels *The Feast of Love*, *First Light*, or *Shadow Play*.

April 25 (tentative date): Diana Hume George, author of *Koyaanisqatsi* and *The Resurrection of the Body* (poetry); *The Lonely Other: A Woman Watching America*; and *The Family Track: Keeping Your Faculties while You Mentor, Nurture, Teach, and Serve*.

How do we select authors?

READERS SERIES,
continued on pg. 12

September 11 at BCC

Professor Remembers Afghanistan

by Jesse Wells, Assistant to VPSCA

In 1977, BCC Engineering Science professor John Gerty volunteered for the Peace Corps. His interest in geology and love of mountains prompted him to journey to Afghanistan, where he spent a year of his life instructing engineering students at Kabul University. The first of a series of military coups occurred during that time, and since then the state of affairs in Afghanistan has steadily deteriorated.

The coup started while he was on his way to a baseball game near the American embassy. At one point, as Gerty and a friend stood looking down at the city to watch the rebellion unfold, a man approached them and told them that they should quickly leave the area. Half an hour later that hillside was strafed with artillery fire.

The coup had been initiated by the Afghan airforce, whose goal was to install the head of the communist party as the new leader. The action took only 24 hours, and was fairly non-violent. The leader they installed was "a grandfatherly figure," Gerty said. "He was a poet, and a wise looking older man." Less than a year later, however, this new leader was murdered in his hospital bed.

Within that year a small rebellion started and the violence slowly escalated. Peace Corps workers began hearing rumors of people being bombed and killed in the surrounding countryside. Although Professor Gerty rarely felt unsafe during his stay, he now feels that "a couple of times,



maybe I should have." Foreign travelers were carefully protected, as Afghanistan's primary source of income was derived from foreign aid. "There was no animosity towards Americans at that time," he said, "although they didn't trust the British, who had attempted to invade Afghanistan a number of times."

During this year of conflict, Gerty carried on his work as a Peace Corps volunteer, experiencing all that made Afghanistan so different from his own home.

According to Gerty, Afghan students showed their professors great respect, in a manner very similar to that of Europeans. Students were intensely interested in their education, which they saw as a passport out of extremely poor living conditions. "Their top students were every bit as good as anyone I've ever met," Gerty said, "while the bottom students couldn't read."

Although the living conditions in Kabul were far from sanitary, it was the most modern and developed city in the country.

Professor Gerty and his co-workers were plagued by constant illness due to bacterial infections, many of which resulted in dysentery. There was no running water in most homes, and many people defecated in the street, which

brought flies, and more sickness.

Peace Corps workers lived in a designated building near the American embassy. In most Peace Corps countries, workers were housed with native families during their stays, but some aspects of Afghan culture made this impossible; one of the few places an Afghan woman could move freely, without her veil, was in her husband's (or father's) compound. This was, typically, a series of single-story structures surrounded by a wall. In the rare case that visitors were allowed to enter, they were entertained in a room where there would be no danger of glimpsing any female family member without her veil or "chadre."

In the cities, it was permissible for some women to be seen in public without veils. In fact, for women of any importance, it was illegal to wear a veil in public. In the countryside the opposite was true; the presence of a veil had become a status symbol.

We interviewed Professor Gerty in November, during the height of America's bombing campaign against Afghanistan. "We bombed the cities too much," Gerty said when asked his opinion on the retaliatory U.S. strikes, "while the troops were out fighting trench warfare that had been at a stalemate for months."

Professor Gerty didn't believe that the Taliban would ever hand Osama bin Laden over for trial, pointing out that bin Laden had already taken control of the Taliban via military and financial support against Russia.

Gerty hoped that there would be an opportunity for Afghanistan to form a government of national unity, though this might be difficult due to the number of tribes which would all need to agree on new leadership.

"Hopefully we won't abandon the country after we get bin Laden," he said. "We need to remember that not a single Afghan was in the airplanes on September 11." ■

■ Highlights ■



Soul of a Citizen: Living with conviction in a cynical time

This fall BCC hosted a very timely appearance by Paul Rogat Loeb, author of *Soul of a Citizen* and *Generation at the Crossroads: Apathy & Action on the American Campus*. His speech came on the heels of the September 11th attacks, a time when his message to "get involved" and "be part of something beyond yourself" was deeply needed.

Loeb's writings explore how to act on your deepest beliefs, and make a difference despite all the obstacles. He described what gets people — especially students — involved in our communities, what stops us from being involved, how to avoid burning out in exhaustion, and how to stay committed. He also discussed how community involvement can give us a rare sense of connection and purpose.

The presentation was part of Student Involvement Day, September 27.

■ Highlights ■



Rad Tech Students Collect Donations for 9/11 Victims

In the wake of the September 11th attacks, BCC's Radiologic Technology Club made and distributed over a thousand "Support USA" ribbons. Donations were accepted for the American Red Cross, to assist in helping victims of the disaster.

"My senior students approached me on the Thursday after the attack, and like everyone else, they were very upset and wanted to do something," said Barb Valentino, Associate Professor of Radiologic Technology. The idea for distributing ribbons started with student Amber Cobb, who had made red, white, and blue ribbons for her class and instructors. The students began making ribbons that same night for distribution to the entire campus on Friday morning.

The resulting fundraiser was such a success, that students had to make three more trips to purchase ribbon-making supplies (they were later reimbursed by the Student Government Association). In four hours, the students collected \$2200 in donations, which they delivered to the Red Cross.

"They really felt good about doing something to help," Valentino said,

Above, (l to r) Brandi Mikloiche, Nikki Citerella, and Dan Vaughan



Outside of Mazar-e-Sharif, John Gerty witnessed and photographed the incredibly fierce and chaotic Afghan game called Buzkashi. More than 100 horses were on the field.

REFLECTION, DISCUSSION, ACTIVITIES FOR COLLEGE STUDENTS AND STAFF

On September 17, College President Donald A. Dellow issued the following statement to the campus and the local media:

"We are fortunate that a college provides the wise counsel of experienced teachers and staff, and a variety of students from different countries, with different religious beliefs. Together we can all learn from each other... we learn to heal and to grow. What happened last week will certainly test our resolve; it will also test our ability to still be an example of good to the whole world."

Nursing Students Polled

Shortly after the events of 9/11, Nursing professors Claire Ligeikis-Clayton and Janet Denman surveyed their students to determine how their lives were being affected. Survey results revealed that:

- Students feel more stressed since 9/11; many students work, have children, and go to school full-time, already leading very stressful lives. The 9/11 incident has heightened this stress
- Students feel more compassion for others and have made the value of family their first priority
- Because family values are a priority, students report that they have difficulty focusing on studies and some admit to minimal preparation for classes and assignments
- There is more of an awareness of current events as students are taking an increased interest in TV news and reading newspapers
- Some students report they have been energized to finish school so that, as nurses, they can help if crisis situations arise again
- Students feel more pressured to obtain their degrees as soon as possible, due to the economy and recent layoffs

Memorial Service Brings Us Together

On September 20, BCC held an Interfaith Service of Remembrance for those who had died, or were still missing, after the September 11 attacks.

Local religious leaders who came together to speak at the service included Imam Mohammed Afify from the Islamic Awareness Center, Pastor David Rockwell of the Nimmonsburg United Methodist Church, and Father James Fukes from St. Cyril's Roman Catholic Church.

The service included performances by the BCC Choir, led by Professor Gerald Grahame, and

students Sarah Hogan and Jennifer Marion who sang an a cappella version of the hymn "Amazing Grace."

To close the service College President Dr. Donald Dellow addressed the audience, followed by the singing of "God Bless America."

Approximately 250 students, faculty, staff and community members gathered in the Baldwin Gym for the event, which was co-sponsored by the BCC Student Government Association. ■



Student Sarah Hogan (with unpictured Jennifer Marion) sang "Amazing Grace" at the September 20th memorial.

Campus Discussions Help Clarify September 11

by Jesse Wells, Assistant to VPSCA

Like all colleges, BCC is engaged in ongoing discussion and debate about September 11, the war on terrorism, and how all our lives have changed. Throughout the fall semester and continuing this semester, BCC faculty, staff, and students have organized a series of public political forums regarding the September 11 attacks. Topics so far have included:

- Civil Liberties vs. National Security
- The Misuse of Islam by Terrorists
- Islam: A Conversation with Iman Mohamed Afify
- A Review of the War Against Terrorism
- Terrorism: The Legal Case
- Terrorism and the Peace Movement

The first forum was held on September 13, in the immediate aftermath of the terrorist attacks. In a crowded room in Titchener Hall, somber students and staff members gathered to address a variety of issues related to the attack on America. The effects of the assault on the continued freedom of our society, our potential response to the violence, and a perceived

strengthening of our community, were some of the primary issues addressed.

Adjunct professor of History Steve Call, whose background is in the subject of terrorism and counter-terrorism, made the point that we can never be completely "safe" from these acts. "We are a free society," he said. "We can't turn our country into a police state."

One audience member said that he had been "expecting this type of attack for a very long time," and for that reason he refuses to fly. Other attendees felt that this self-restriction of personal freedom was a response that was fully intended by attackers.

Adjunct Professor Kelly Clark, CSW, served as grief counselor during the discussion. "For many of us this is a grief experience; we just don't feel as safe as we used to feel. Let us still be able to go about our business," she advised. "It's not wise to let ourselves become paralyzed."

"It is important to get back to the structure of our day-to-day lives," she said.

Our reactions, both individually and as a nation, were also discussed. The media have

continually likened the terrorist action to the December 7, 1941 attack on Pearl Harbor, but Call pointed out that, unlike the people who experienced Pearl Harbor, we have "no clear idea who is responsible. For this reason," he said, "we have no clear idea what to do about it."

Clark spoke of her concern for the safety of a Lebanese friend who lives in Washington, D.C., because of the friend's middle-eastern accent. The new potential for prejudice and persecution reminded some audience members of the U.S. government's actions against Japanese Americans during World War II.

In contrast, a woman student said, "I don't understand how we can just let anyone who wants to come into this country, come in." She decried the government's willingness to allow family members of known terrorists to live here freely, citing the Boston-based relatives of Saudi dissident Osama bin Laden. This struck her as a sign of weakness in the American government.

"This debate is healthy for our society," said Steven Call, in reference to the ongoing question of citizens' rights in the U.S. "It's very easy to build walls," he

said. "Do we not allow any Muslims to enter the country?"

Another audience member asked, "How do we express anger and rage against those people in other countries, even women and children, who are cheering and dancing in the streets?" Clark suggested that we not suppress this type of fury, but find some way to "constructively release it."

Finally, the discussion turned toward the fact that "everyone seems to know someone" who was close to the horrific events of September 11. Many felt that this was a genuine opportunity for everyone to come together.

"Perhaps the terrorists have done what they didn't want to do," said one student, "since they have brought us all closer."

This first discussion, along with subsequent seminars, was co-sponsored by the History / Philosophy / Social Sciences Department, the PTK Honor Society, Student Activities, the Student Government Association, and the "Gang of Five" — a group of faculty and staff which regularly sponsors political discussion seminars. ■

BCC Art & Design Department Balances Creativity and Practicality

by Jesse Wells, Assistant to VPSCA

Both Patricia Evans, BCC's Art and Design Department Coordinator, and new BCC teacher Hall Groat believe in building a solid and practical foundation for their students.

Evans and Groat believe that some art schools are offering rich, "artsy" cultures with very little emphasis on real-world application. They feel that BCC's Art department — one of the college's fastest growing programs — offers a healthy dose of practicality to its students. One of their primary goals is for BCC students to graduate with the skills to market themselves, and the means to defend and communicate their design ideas.

"Structure first, decorate later," Evans says. "The process itself becomes the work of art."

"I used to hate it when my teachers would tell me to move or change something without divulging any of the reasoning," Evans said. "Our students must explain the logic behind their design decisions." She believes in pushing the process just as strongly as the finished product. Students must understand how to work with imposed limitations

on factors such as time, budgets, materials, and pre-existing design themes. All mistakes, sketches, and false starts are handed in as part of each assignment. "I need to see the struggle," Patricia said, "in order to see how the students arrive at their finished products."

The department has taken an approach based on the methods of the German Bauhaus School (Bauen = build, Haus = house) of the 1930s. That school's goal was to combine art with engineering and craftsmanship. Bauhaus students were trained by both artists and master craftsmen; the goal was to develop modern artists who were also familiar with science and economics.

"Many art schools are focused on learning by discovery," new Assistant Professor Hall Groat agrees. "Here students learn to understand the foundations of good design."

BCC's art programs strive for a balance between the creative and the practical. Groat believes that students should learn how to think conceptually and solve problems, rather than simply following directions. "An artist should learn depth, as well as commercial methods," he said.

In addition to honing creative expression and artistic skill, Groat feels that it is important for students to learn about the politics and business of commercial art. As Art & Design Club coordinator, he teaches students how to create professional portfolios, how to present portfolios to a group, how to approach businesses for employment, and how to create digital portfolios. Students also learn how to research jobs online.

"Companies are hiring creative thinkers who know how to communicate their ideas," Groat said. "They want to see strong portfolios, not just credits and degrees."

Groat's aim for the BCC Art and Design Club is that it have immediate usefulness for students; most club activities result in material for student portfolios, or knowledge that they can put to use in their work. For example, the club is sponsoring the "Artist Talk" series, which brings renowned professional artists to the campus to discuss their work. In the future, visiting artists will be asked to conduct workshops, which will also be open to the community.



Art teacher Nancy Ryan, far right, advises students on their art projects.

Evans and Groat believe that many of the art students who come to BCC already have a strong vision of what they want to do. They are interested mainly in corporate image design, motion graphics (animation), and editorial design areas.

Some students are earning money right now, by hiring out their services in online auctions. They are already familiarizing themselves with creating contracts and dealing with clients. Several students are paying for their own education. "They have learned that they will get what they work for," Evans said. "If they only want to play, they won't last."

And it would seem that the word is out on all the effort to distinguish BCC's art program.

Enrollments are soaring, and student feedback is positive.

Alexandra Davis, a second-year Studio Art major, says, "The art programs here really open your eyes. They help you to understand how the things you see every day on TV and in the newspaper are designed."

Davis wants to become a teacher herself. "I plan to use what I have learned here in my own classes," she said. "The professors are just phenomenal. They really know how to keep the students interested." When asked how lessons in BCC's art program apply to the real world, Davis said "The lessons we learn here can be used anywhere. Even if you work in a furniture store you could use the design skills they teach." ■

■ Highlights ■



New ID Card System Firmly Established at BCC

Last year, BCC introduced a new ID card system. Today all the kinks are out of the system, and students are enjoying the look and benefits of their new cards.

The photos are taken on a digital camera that saves the images to an ID database; the system then prints them directly onto plastic cards with a scenic BCC background. Each ID card also contains a barcode generated by the computerized system, which becomes the student's library card number, so that the card has multiple uses on campus.

Students have found the card has uses off campus as well; for example, local merchants routinely offer discounts to students with valid IDs.

<http://hornetservices.sunybroome.edu>

by John Petkash, Director,
Computing Resources

Last spring the College began slowly unveiling a new web-based software product that has greatly changed the way we do "business."

Now, after many months of trial, error, and experimentation, BCC has *Hornetservices*. The new system is integrated into the College's general database of student information and provides "real-time" information to users.

What this means is that

prospective and current students can access a variety of services — at any time, from any computer — that used to require trips to campus during business hours, or mailed-in forms.

Current students can log in and register/drop/add courses, or view their grades or transcripts. They can update their email addresses or other personal data, and even check on how much money they might still owe. Prospective students can apply, view all schedules, and complete financial aid forms — all from the comfort of their bedrooms, with the music turned up as loud as they like!

Hornetservices is demonstrably popular; use has doubled, from its debut last spring to the current spring semester. A noticeable reduction in student lines indicates that this self-service system is satisfying student needs — and is providing more time for faculty and staff to help those with more critical objectives. ■



Morgan Stanley VP Flies Far and High with BCC Degree

When BCC alum Steven Franck ('77, Engineering Science), VP for High Yield Credit Research with Morgan Stanley in London, came to BCC right out of Union-Endicott High School, he wasn't thinking about cutting edge communications technology, high finance, White House diplomacy, or Naval aviation — all fields he would eventually enter.

His first love was hockey: BCC hockey, to be exact. He recalled, "I had really good friends and we all went there together to play hockey." He also liked the fact that BCC courses were easy to transfer. "I could have gone to Cornell after one year at Broome, but I wanted to stay to continue playing hockey." A smooth skating defenseman, Steve played on BCC's first hockey team in the mid-'70s.

BCC Dean of Liberal Arts George Higginbottom was the hockey coach then, and he remembers Steve's determination on the hockey rink. "He was part of an enthusiastic bunch from Endicott who were used to playing on ponds," Higginbottom said. They came to BCC as a group. Skilled, reliable, and with great character, Higginbottom says they served as trailblazers for the BCC hockey program.

Steve graduated from Broome,



then transferred to the engineering program at Cornell and joined the Navy ROTC. Although Binghamton was a secure home where he spent his first 18 years, he joined the Navy to see more of the world. "I've always had a wanderlust," he said.

He became a Navy aviator, a P-3C Aircraft mission commander, and led a 17-man crew tracking Soviet submarines in the North Atlantic at the height of the Cold War. He patrolled the East Coast and dropped sonar buoys to keep track of Russian ballistic submarines off the coast, among other missions. Although stationed in Florida, he was deployed all over the world and enjoyed the challenge of such dangerous, far-reaching work.

His first flying tour over, he settled into a job selecting candidates for the Naval Flight School in Pensacola, Florida. He was subsequently chosen to work as one of a handful of junior military aides at the White House. Additional part-time duties at the White House ranged from telling people where to hang their coats to introducing President Reagan to 200 guests.

"I was able to go to some of the big events," he said. But after about two years in Washington, he was ready once again for the rotation to sea duty that comes with Navy life. He was offered an unusual opportunity to retrain in another aircraft type, this time the EA-6B Prowler which performs electronic counter-

measure missions from an aircraft carrier. This required more training at the flight school in Pensacola, but landed him a three-and-a-half-year tour in the Seattle area while flying off the USS Forrestal and USS Saratoga.

With a range of flying experience, Steve chose to pursue aerospace engineering next, and was given a new position on the ground — technical program manager. After two years in Monterey, California, earning a Master's in Operations Research, Steve transferred to the Tokyo area and worked extensively with Asian aerospace companies providing heavy depot level maintenance and repairs to damaged Pacific Rim military aircraft. "The position of technical program manager was more appropriate to the business world," he said.

In Japan, he learned to negotiate with companies such as Korean Air, Japan Aircraft Manufacturing Company and Air New Zealand. "The Japanese are tough negotiators," he said, "but once they commit to something, they stay with it. They are difficult to read because of cultural barriers. But at that time (early '90s) Japan was ascendant; Japan could do no wrong. I wanted to see what I could learn from them."

When the Berlin Wall came down, Cold War activities slowed and the Navy offered early retirements. Steve decided this would be his last opportunity for transition to the world of finance, something he had always wanted to pursue. "I had over 2330 hours in several different aircraft, had worked at the White House and earned a Master's degree in Operations Research, but I couldn't read a balance sheet when I first got out of the Navy," he said. Although he had plenty of interviews in finance as he left the service, he lacked some of the basic skills needed to enter that field; consequently, no job offers were forthcoming. He took his first corporate job after the Navy with a start-up company, developing telecommunications products, similar to New York's EZ Pass system. When he saw the company floundering, he left to attend MIT's Sloan School of Management to gain accounting

and financial skills.

After graduating in 1996, he began working for Morgan Stanley Equity Research in New York, analyzing stocks of telecommunications companies with an aggregate market capitalization of over \$35-billion and eventually becoming involved in their initial public offerings, mergers, acquisitions, high-yield and convertible debt transactions. He was transferred to London in late 1999, in much the same role. Although he lives in Europe now, Steve stays in touch with friends from BCC and comes back to visit. "I am very impressed with the campus and changes I've seen there," he said. "I can't wait to take my kids skating at the new rink on campus."

Reflecting on his professional life, he said, "Broome got me off to a great start with good friends and an academic program that was well-respected and easily transferable. Since BCC, I have had frequent change, and that's been a challenge; I changed airplanes, changed careers within the Navy, changed from the Navy to a civilian job, and changed careers in my civilian life."

He has a wife and three children, and enjoys living in London. But someday he hopes to make one more change: a move back home to Binghamton. ■

BCC Alumni Event Held at Delta Engineers in Binghamton

A new program to connect Broome alumni in the workplace with their BCC roots was launched with an event at Delta Engineers on October 30. This was a good place to start, because more than half of the employees at Delta are alums, most from the Civil Engineering Technology Program.

The event began with lunch brought to the Delta headquarters on Court Street and sponsored by the BCC Alumni Association. Twenty-eight alumni gathered during their lunch hour for the food and then a short program afterwards. BCC President Dr. Donald Dellow made some introductory remarks and Kelli Ligeikis, Chair of Civil

Engineering Technology, talked about what was happening in the department. Art Hass, Professor of Civil Engineering Technology, was also on hand to update alums.

BCC Director of Alumni Affairs Michele McFee then presented a nostalgic Power Point slide show of the campus, with particular emphasis on the civil engineering technology program. There were also door prizes awarded - BCC Alumni Association mugs.

The reception was a relaxed, convenient way for BCC alumni to get back in touch with the college and to allow for alumni feedback so the college can become more aware of professional trends in the field. Alumni

also updated their addresses and were encouraged to submit news items for the BCC News.

This reception was meant to be the first of many in the area, and the college is looking into possible sites for future events. Ingredients for making such an event successful include people within the business or organization willing to take care of the internal details and a location with a high concentration of BCC alums.

If you know of a company that might be a good host for a future reception, please contact Michele McFee at 778-5477. ■

■ Highlights ■



Transfer Information Day at BCC

BCC's annual Transfer Information Day gives students a chance to meet with admissions representatives from over thirty schools who answer students' questions regarding curricula and transfer requirements.

Students were provided with detailed directories, which listed schools associated with each major, ranging from Accounting to Zoology. They were also given complete contact information for each college/university.

The November event was co-sponsored by the Admissions Office and the ACCESS Center.

Alumni Association Re-Focuses to Help College

by Michele McFee, Director,
Alumni Affairs

When Wanda Sierzant learned Broome Community College wanted more alumni to get involved, she stepped up and offered her help!

Fortunately, she lived just a stone's throw away from the college she attended; in fact, she passed it every day on the way to work as an engineering specialist at BAE Systems, not realizing that the institution which gave her a leg up now needed her help. Last winter, she was recruited to serve on the Board of Directors for the Broome Community College Alumni Association. This spring a number of local professionals also joined the board for three-year terms: Diane Bartlow, Human Resources Consultant, NYSEG; Mike Cadden, Pharmaceutical Sales Representative; Karen Canfield, Assistant Manager, Morey's Restaurant; Mary Ann Henderson, Coordination Management Processor, Engineering, BAE Systems; Regina Kelley, Budget Officer, Broome Community College; Donna Rehak, Executive Director, ACCORD; Ann Van Savage, Executive Director, Broome County Youth Bureau.

The new group is enthusiastic about reconnecting BCC alumni with the college by re-invigorating the mission and goals of the Alumni Association, a group established in the mid 1960s. Surprisingly, with a large



BCC Alumni Association Board members (top) (l to r) Ann Van Savage, Michele McFee; (2nd row) Donna Rehak, Steve Gardner, Regina Kelley, Francis Battisti, facilitator; (front row) Mary Ann Henderson, Fran Hull, Bill Fenson, Wanda Sierzant.

percentage of the graduates of BCC still in the Broome County area, many have not re-visited the Front Street campus since they graduated, some 10, 20 or even 30 years before, and they do not really pay much attention to what is going on there.

Hoping to change that trend, the newly charged BCC Alumni Association met last fall for a planning retreat at the Chestnut Inn at Oquaga Lake to flesh out new ways to get alumni involved in helping the college. A number of campus administrators spent time at the retreat, letting the Alumni Association know about the needs of the college: BCC President Dr. Donald Dellow, BCC Foundation Executive Director Dr. Judy Siggins, Vice President for Student and Community Affairs Charles Quagliata, and VP for Academic

Affairs Dr. Keith Cotroneo.

The charge from the administrators was reflected in a new, more direct focus for the organization: to actively and effectively promote interest and pride in, and awareness of, BCC. The group will be increasing its membership, enhancing relationships with BCC faculty, staff, and students, expanding the alumni network, and improving the look and effectiveness of communications with Alumni Association members.

Steve Gardner, Director and CEO of GHS Federal Credit Union and the new President of the Association, hopes to make a difference in how the Alumni Association helps the college. While the Alumni Association has been able to sponsor scholarships for BCC students and organize an annual reunion at BCC gradua-

tion, he wants to see the group do more to improve the local community's pride in the school, and to better connect with its graduates.

The new Directors join those already on the Board: Bernie Benson, Retired High School Guidance Counselor; Kara Davies, English Teacher, Binghamton High School; Tom Donahue, President, Thomas P. Donahue & Associates, LLC; Bill Fenson, Career Counselor, the Skills Emporium; Steve Gardner, President, GHS Federal Credit Union; Frances Hull, Professional Human Resources (PHR); Sandy Sawka.

Any alumni interested in serving on the Board can contact Steve Gardner at 723-8932, or Alumni Affairs Director Michele McFee at 778-5477. ■

The BCC Alumni Association actively promotes interest, pride, and awareness in BCC and supports the efforts of the college, students and its Foundation, while maintaining a life-long bond between the college, its students, staff and graduates.

HIGH SCHOOL GRADS,
continued from pg. 1

Staying home to start college might be an even stronger option than ever before.

And the BCC Admissions office is now fully staffed to help potential students understand all their options. Alongside veterans like Fiorelli and Assistant Director Michael Carra, new Admissions staff members Valerie Chier and Brent McEnroe are busy with next year's students.

When told of the 2001 record number of high school graduates choosing BCC, area guidance counselors had these reactions:

- Bill O'Donald, Windsor High School: "Economics has a lot to do with it. The cost factor is huge. The school has an excellent reputation and many of their parents and siblings have attended. Many feel they are not yet ready to leave home."
- Rita Grenchus, Johnson City High School: "We recently surveyed 176 students in our senior class and they indicated the main reasons for attending BCC as being cost of education, closeness to home and being career undecided. They know they can get a good education and transfer successfully."
- Sylvia Beaty, Binghamton High School: "Students realize that BCC has a good reputation ... They know they can get a good education without spending a lot of money for their first two years. It is engrained in our culture that it's a good thing to do." ■

ALUMNI ON THE MOVE

1960s

Louise Rogers Kurtz, the sister of **Sue (Rogers) Darling '69** and **Ray Rogers, Jr. '78** was severely burned over 70 percent of her body during the September 11 attack on the Pentagon. She is also the daughter of the late BCC business faculty member **Ray Rogers**. Louise is an accountant for the U.S. Army at the Pentagon.

1970s

Brenda S. Hilfiger '71 received her Bachelor's of Dental Hygiene Health Policy and Administration from the Pennsylvania College of Technology in Williamsport in 1995. She works in private practice and as the Canton Area School District school hygienist in charge of the district School Dental Health Program.

Martin D. Lawson '73 has been first vice-president with Morgan Stanley since

2000. In October 2001, he celebrated 20 years with the firm and also celebrated 26 years of marriage to his wife Susie, whom he met at Broome. One son is attending BCC and the other is a senior at Geneseo.

Ronald Thornton '75 earned his P.E. in 1999 and has been at Delta Engineers since 1997. He developed the firm's specialty in pre-cast engineering.

Joseph Sayles '77 became a first-time landlord of a two-family home in July 1999. He enjoys doing home improvements and helping tenants when he is done with his regular job.

Sandra Warren-Tesch '78 works for the Texas Department of Health as a program specialist in the Health Communication Division. She is responsible for program planning, curriculum development, project management, marketing, outreach, and health promo-

tion. She is also executive officer of the Texas Dental Hygienists' Association and an oral health community specialist for community-based programs in Austin.

1980s

Michelle (Lewis) Reynolds '85 has worked at The Hospital, Sidney for the past 20 years, mainly in obstetrics. She also works for AEROX-CARE, Inc., in Sidney and Binghamton.

Ellen Solomon '85 is working full-time for Twin Tier Home Health as an admitting nurse.

Joe Sviatko '88 was recently promoted to the job of Public Information Officer at the Maryland Governor's Office of Crime Control and Prevention. He and his wife are expecting their first child in February 2002.

Scott Alapeck '89 has been promoted to senior engineer at Delta Engineers. He has worked for the firm for two years as a civil structural assistant engineer.

Beverly (Kovacs) McLain '89 was recently hired as Chorus Manager of The Madrigal Choir of Binghamton. She and her husband **Todd McLain '93** had their first child, Abigail Rose, in May 2000. Todd was promoted to Operations Manager for Communications Test Design, Inc.'s Wilkes-Barre, PA branch, part of their Engineering and Installation division.

1990s

Alexis Dugon '92 worked at Delta Engineers for 6 1/2 years before she left in November. She was a senior engineer managing bridge projects and now serves as an adjunct instructor at Broome Community College. She passed her EIT (Engineer in Training) in the spring of 2000.

Andre Haykal '92 is the new owner of the Roaring Fork Restaurant in Vestal.

Jim Kavarnos '94 received both a B.S. and an M.A. in mathematics from Binghamton University. He teaches math and physics at the Family Foundation

School in Hancock, NY and serves as Science Dept. Chair at the school.

Peg Relyea '94 is finishing a dual Master's degree and teaching 7th-12th grade Social Studies at the Binghamton City School District and the Susquehanna Valley School District.

Nick Ioannisci '95 just completed his first year of work at Delta Engineers in September 2001.

Shawn Montgomery '95 completed a BA in English and Creative Writing from Binghamton University. As a Peace Corps volunteer, he will be teaching English in Sukhbaatar, Mongolia for the next two years.

Rosemary Niznik '95 is in charge of the bookkeeping, payroll and human resources for three Catholic Churches, the Catholic school and cemetery in Newark Valley.

Jackie Aragon '96, a registered nurse, drove from her nursing business in Las Vegas to the site of the attack on the World Trade Center immediately after

BCC Alum has a "Just Do It" Attitude

by Michele McFee, Director,
Alumni Affairs

From the sales floor of a local sporting goods store to a position as a national manager of Nike, Eugene (Gene) Purtell '93 has used his BCC degree and some nuts-and-bolts experience to advance in the corporate world.

Gene chipped away at his BCC education over ten years, determined to finish it while working full-time. By tackling it slowly, however, he acquired on-the-job training beyond what a degree alone could give him. With the combination of education and sales experience, he's worked his way up the corporate ladder to his recent appointment as General Manager for National Strategic Accounts and Strategic Department Stores at Nike, Inc. — with just his A.A.S. in Business Marketing and Management from Broome Community College.

Gene took his first BCC class immediately after his tour of duty in the United States Coast Guard. He enrolled in at least one class each semester for ten years in order to graduate, first taking non-credit courses to bring his skills up. "Broome is a great place to start your education," Gene said. He appreciated the small student-teacher ratio on the campus, and felt it was personalized and friendly. As he pursued his education, he was working at Dick's Clothing and Sporting

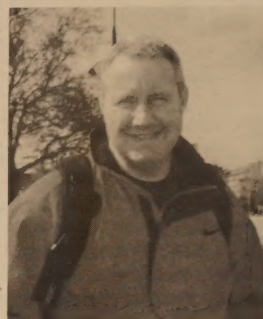
Goods, a job he got in 1986 when he stopped in at the Binghamton (Court Street) store on a whim, and filled out an application.

"It was the right thing to do professionally," Gene said.

After receiving his degree, he continued at Dick's, becoming store manager and eventually a merchandise buyer for the company. It was in this position that he had an informal conversation with a Nike manager. "You build relationships that go above and beyond that of business associates. We became friends," Gene said. At a business dinner one evening, the Nike rep said that the company was having a hard time finding people to relocate to New York City. Gene said he'd be willing to go there, and that was the beginning of his job move to Nike.

"Even though Dick's was growing, it was quite a transition," Gene said. "Just learning the organizational structure of a global Fortune 500 company is a job in itself."

Part of what earned him his position was his flexibility and mobility, and those qualities would be tested in his next seven years with Nike. The company sent him around the world: to Beaverton, Oregon as a product line sales manager; The Netherlands as a European apparel sales manager; Dallas as a strategic account executive; and Chicago where he was sales manager for the entire Eastern region with



sales of over \$40-million. He is now in charge of equipment sales for a number of national accounts with Nike, and back in the Nike world headquarters in Beaverton, Oregon.

With all of his travels, he still remembers his roots at BCC and appreciates the lessons learned from those courses. "The marketing and selling classes (with Bob "Fitz" Fitzgerald), QBM, and effective speaking courses are the foundation of what is incorporated into my career on a daily basis," he said.

In Oregon he plans to start chipping away at his Bachelor's degree, which he expects will be another long, but determined process. But it's a personal goal, not a professional one, an illustration of his own philosophy. "Take control of your own life," he says; "your success is dependent on what you put into it."

Inevitably, he adds, "I would have to say, 'Just Do It!'"

Meet the Foundation's Phonathon Students

In the past, many readers of BCC News have received calls from the BCC Foundation asking for a gift to the alumni campaign and, hopefully, you have responded positively. The voice on the other end of the line is not a telemarketer, but a BCC student!

BCC's Phonathon callers are enthusiastic students who are learning the various ways gifts to the Foundation can assist the College. These students enjoy calling alumni and updating them on the College. This is not just another telemarketing call, but an opportunity for you to learn more about and get acquainted with a current BCC student. This is also your chance to support BCC!

Wondering who you've been talking to? Joao Moreira is one of the students who may have called you this fall. He is in his second year at BCC and will graduate in the spring of 2002 with a degree in Business Administration. Joao would like to work at the United Nations; he was born in the United States, but his family is originally from Brazil. He is active in BCC's International Student Organization and enjoys learning about the traditions and cultures of other BCC students. Joao works in the Foundation's Phonathon program because he likes the opportunity to help BCC, and to speak with alumni across the country.

Kelli Strong chose BCC because it was less expensive than her other college choices and it was close to home — very important to a first-year college student. Now that she's here, she loves it! Kelli says her teachers are "really cool" and actually care about how well their students do. She's a student in the Humanities department. After graduation in 2003 she wants to be an interpreter for the deaf. Kelli loves interacting with people, and sees the Phonathon as a chance to get to know BCC's alumni.

The Foundation is glad to have a great group of students working for us this year. The spring semester Alumni Phonathon will begin at the end of February and they look forward to getting in touch with you!



Joao Moreira, Kelli Strong

ALUMNI ON THE MOVE, cont.

hearing the news. She and a colleague staffed a station to administer first aid to rescue workers through their company, Global R.N. The company supplies hospitals in need of temporary professional nursing help in the advent of a shortage or strike.

Eric DeProspero '97 is working at Delta Engineers as a structural engineer. He has been there for two and a half years.

Bart Stenglein '97 graduated from St. Mary's College of Maryland with a degree in History and is working at Basel Glass while waiting for an opening in his field. He is active in ZETA of New York, an alumni group for Phi Theta Kappa members.

Karen S. Canfield '99 was promoted to first assistant to the general manager of Morey's Restaurant, where she has worked since 1994. In May 2001 she earned a degree in Business Administration with emphasis in food and restaurant management from SUNY Delhi.

Colleen Donald '99 is serving her third year as secretary of Zeta of New York (an organization for Phi Theta Kappa alumni). She is in the nursing program at Binghamton University.

Heath Strong (LAAS '99, ES'00) is a senior in Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering at Cornell University. In May 2001, he presented a design for a NASA competition at the Kennedy Space Center in Florida. He is a member of four honor societies.

Judith Hawkins '99 graduated from SUNY Cortland Summa Cum Laude in May 2001. She is an English teacher for grades 10 and 12 at Owego Free Academy in Owego, New York.

2000s

Douglas Bush '00 is working with a local film company, Misty Falls Motion Picture Company, and has started his own production company, FadetoblackFilms, while working as a data analyst at Raymond Corporation in Greene.

Josh Rizzo '00 is working in Los Angeles. He just finished as a camera assistant on the Bernie Mac Show.

Nathan Gismot '01 appeared on the front cover of the October 11, 2001 Binghamton Press & Sun-Bulletin "Good Times" section for his role in the Binghamton University Theater Department's production of "Firebugs."

In Memoriam

William Dervay '49, a member of the first graduating class, died September 7, 2001. Bill was a professor emeritus in the BCC Electrical Engineering Department.

Ellen K. Donovan '49, a member of the first graduating class, died October 14, 2001. She worked 46 years at the Chenango Bridge Medical Group before retiring.

Rebecca (Becki) Goss (Avery) '91 died October 11, 2001. She held various jobs in finance during her career,

ending with her position as chief fiscal officer at Opportunities for Broome.

Bonnie J. Rising '91 died September 15, 2001. She was a bridal consultant and manager at Danel Bridal Salon in Endicott and directed the drama program at Ross Corners Christian Academy for over 20 years. She also wrote poems, stories and plays.

Steven C. Mercurio '01 died unexpectedly November 30, 2001. After working for many years as an industrial engineer, Steven decided on a complete career change and had enrolled at BCC with the goal of becoming a drug and alcohol abuse counselor.

If you have news — marriage, promotion, achievement, etc. — for Alumni on the Move, please let us know about it!

Your news:

Submitted by:

Your Name:

Degree:

Graduation Year:

Send to: Michele McFee, Director, Alumni Affairs
Broome Community College, PO Box 1017, Binghamton, NY 13902
607 778-5477 • FAX 607 778-5539 • mcfec_m@sunybroome.edu

■ Highlights ■


Student Government Raises Toys for Tots

Members of the 2001-02 Student Government Association get a chance to relax with Santa after collecting two van loads of Toys for Tots. The annual event brings out student clubs, college offices, and athletic teams to help families in need.


**FOOD COURT,
continued from pg. 1**

and a raised and carpeted section was created.

What was once a cafeteria became a food court and dining room, with food "stalls" and attractive furniture.

The purpose of the whole project was to give students the food items and dining atmosphere they want, and it seems to have worked. The area is usually crowded and has become the heart of a livelier Student Center.

"Nirchi's is great," says Mark Ames. "I like the variety at Gance's Grill," says Tammy White. Michael Williams adds, "I like the fact that students are working at the food court. They're easy to relate to, and are friendly." ■

Students choose from Subway (pg. 1), Nirchi's, and Gance's (at left), then gather with food and friends at tables in the refurbished dining room (below).


READERS SERIES, continued from pg. 5

Well, imagine yourself one afternoon sitting in an audience in Kansas City, listening intently to a woman reading poetry that is like a wrench that grabs a piece of you and won't let go; imagine yourself in the blistering heat of the Arizona desert, listening to words spoken that are like a chainsaw, leveling everything in its path. That's part of what I do as director of the Series. Generally I travel to hear an author before I invite him or her to campus. The writing must be excellent, of course, but rapport with an audience and also a certain stage presence are also vital to making a successful event. Plans are now underway for the 2002-2003 Series, with possible visits from Tim O'Brien, Diane Ackerman, Alison Hawthorne Deming, Janisse Ray, and others. Beyond these events, there are other plans, including hosting a logo contest – the Series does not have one yet, and if we did we might put it on T-shirts and mugs to sell at readings to expand our funds. Additionally, to aid with publicity, the creation of a website would contribute to our community visibility.

The impulse behind the Series is simple: During the academic year bring to campus a variety of excellent authors working across many genres. Have each give a reading from a work in progress or from published work. Encourage an informal question-and-answer session after the reading. If the writing is not good enough, entice people to come to the event with refreshments at a reception where the audience can get a chance to meet the author and discuss her or his work further. Then, have the author lead a writing workshop on the particular area of expertise: writing poetry if a poet, writing fiction if a short story writer or novelist, and so on. In asking authors to lead a workshop I encourage each to discuss the backgrounds to their writing, the processes they undergo, the problems and successes they face in writing for publication. Workshop participants generally crave ideas for their own writing, and authors usually introduce each to one or two innovative writing exercises that help to spark and foster creativity.

The Series has been fortunate to have the backing of several funding sources in the past, including the English Department, The Writers Club, the Faculty Association, and Poets and Writers, Inc. of New York City. The college bookstore has been extremely supportive in publicizing and having books on hand for authors to sign. In fact, though I write this in the first person, there are many good people who support the Series in a thousand different ways. Just by taking the time to listen is support; without them, without an audience, there would be no Series. And I continue to look for creative ways to expand the Series. For example, the Crime Victims Assistance Center of Broome County sponsored a reception when Sue William Silverman gave a reading from her disturbing award-winning memoir *Because I Remember Terror, Father, I Remember You*.

Most readings attract anywhere from 40 to 60 people, a good size, considering that readings are scheduled on Thursday mornings at 11:00, the Common Hour, when many other good programs are offered at the same time. Each writing workshop, because it conflicts with class time, usually has 8 to 10 participants.

Interwoven in the Series, between the scheduled appearances of authors, the Readers Series also fosters writing by students, staff and faculty in its open readings, where any writer (practiced or just beginning with hope and enthusiasm) can drop by to read from creative work-in-progress or a finished work. Generally I like to schedule three to four of these per semester. It's these two essential

parts – the visits of well-known authors who share a vision of community, and the opportunity to read works-in-progress – that help to keep the Series growing and, from all indications so far, a welcome part of our college community.

If you'd like more information, or if you'd like to suggest authors for the Series, please drop me a line at origer_c@sunybroome.edu. ■